

REMARKS

Claims 9-13, 15-20 and 31-33 are pending for further examination. Claim 9 has been amended to correct a minor error. Claims 1-8, 14, 21-30 and 34-35 are canceled.

Applicants thank the Examiner for recognizing that claims 14, 20, 32 and 34 include allowable subject matter. Accordingly, applicants have amended independent claims 9 and 15 to incorporate the features of claims 14 and 34, respectively. Therefore, claims 9 and 15 should be in condition for allowance.

Claims 10-13 and 31-32 depend from claim 9 and should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 9.

Claims 16-20 and 33 depend from claim 15 and should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 15.

Conclusion

All remaining claims are allowable and a Notice of Allowance should be issued.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

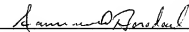
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The fee for the Petition for Extension of Time is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/29/07



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